

June 2022 Newsletter

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Annual FRUCC Church Picnic
at Wildcat Mountain Farm
Sunday, June 12th
Starting @ 10:30am



First REFORMED

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Lexington, North Carolina



No matter who you are or where you are on
life's journey, expect extravagant welcomes here.

Join Sunday Worship on Youtube:

http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCHfzFOjObXH_bR8E-UG_gTA

Welcoming Statement

If you are searching for a place to experience God's wonderful and inclusive love, we invite you to join us at First Reformed United Church of Christ in Lexington, NC.

Following the example of Jesus, we believe that God's love, Christ's church, and the power of the Holy Spirit are for all people. We believe our unity as one body in Christ transcends worldly differences. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

First Reformed United Church of Christ is an Open and Affirming congregation. This means we welcome into the full life and ministry of the church all people, regardless of ability, age, education, ethnicity, family or marital status, gender identity or expression, income, nationality, political affiliation, race, sexual orientation, or any other distinction. At the baptismal font and at the communion table, from the nursery cribs to the church leadership, whether you were raised in a church or have never before attended one, you are welcome here.

We affirm and celebrate the diversity of God's children as a blessing. We welcome you to First Reformed United Church of Christ.

A Message From *Rev. Elizabeth Horton*

As we step into June, I love that the first Sunday is Pentecost. The rush of violent winds, tongues of fire, and the mystery of the Holy Spirit proclaim that God will not be contained to our expectations. We wear orange and red and listen to the sacred story of how God spoke to all in the exact language each one needed to hear. Pentecost proclaims that God's love is wild and free, and sometimes brings chaos into our ordered, predictable lives, yet always seeks to connect us with the Holy and with our neighbor.

Like those who gathered on the day of Pentecost, most of us are a bit disconnected in various ways, wanting to hear God's voice, to find our place, to be known.

This month, we have opportunities to connect in new ways. We formally dedicate the newly refurbished Parlor. We pray the Parlor will be a space where new ministries are born, relationships strengthened, and a sense of welcome is found by all.

We welcome Ken Davis musician, singer, and songwriter to the Annual Picnic at Wildcat on June 12.

Here are some other ways to get connected in ministry at FRUCC this summer. Give one a try!

- Support the first ever Teen Pride march in Davidson county.
- Help plant or harvest in our Community Garden
- Join in helping in a Saturday lunch
- Fold, sort or give away in the Clothing Ministry
- Be a partner with Charles England elementary.
- Join in book study, even if it's already stated
- Drop in on Crucial Conversations on Faith and Race
- Reach out to the ones on our prayer list
- Come in Person or Zoom to Sunday Bible Study
- Read in worship
- Help with children and youth
- Help others find their way as an Usher
- Stay in the balcony as a Sound Tech
- Play with the cameras and equipment as you help live stream
- Sing in Choir
- Attend the monthly Women's Life Fellowship gathering

I pray we will trust that God will speak to each of us as we have needs. A new spirit is upon us! To God be the glory.

Rev. Elizabeth Horton

Consistory Highlights - May 2022

The Consistory met on Sunday, May 15, 2022.

Concerns of the Past:

- **Covid Protocols:**
 - I. Continue with masks optional and encourage safe distancing practices
 - II. Currently no church wide sit down meals being served, this includes Open Hands Ministry (St. Stephen)
 - III. Each small group that meets will determine if/how food is served
- **Parlor Dedication:**
 - I. Dedication of the church Parlor will be Sunday, June 5th following worship
- **Faith Formation Nursery Worker:**
 - I. Nursery care for infants and toddlers still in assessment phase.

Concern of the Future:

- **Interfaith Power & Light Report:**
 - I. Interfaith P&L performed the building inspection to assess how to make the building energy efficient. Next steps are to share with the property committee.
- **Church Administration Update:**
 - I. Church Administrator Jackie Mock is working to streamline areas of communication, finance and administration. It would be helpful for Consistory members and Board chairs to meet with her to share goals and needs. Current office schedule: walk-in's welcome in the morning and after 1:30 appointments or call before coming, providing her time to work on the more focused tasks.

*Consistory will meet June 5, 2022 following the Parlor Dedication

*Copies of the Interfaith Power & Light summary and suggestions are available in the church office lounge area

*Complete copies of the Consistory Meeting will be available in church office lounge area

From the Treasurer...

Thank you for the many ways you support the ministries of FRUCC. I am pleased to report that through April 30 all of our bills have been paid. Our financial year is off to a good start. As we head toward the Memorial Day holiday and the beginning of summer, please remain diligent in your financial support.

I hope you get to enjoy exciting travel and relaxing vacation time this summer, but please remember our church's bills and costs continue whether we are in town or at the beach. Please continue to be as generous as possible in support of our budget commitments. I wish you a wonderful summer! Thank you for all you do for FRUCC!



Walter Hoffman

Annual First Reformed UCC Church Picnic Sunday, June 12th Wildcat Mountain Farm

*Come enjoy worship, music,
good food and fellowship.*

Gather at 10:30am

Worship at 11 am

Lunch following



Menu: Hamburgers & Hotdogs (with all the fixings)
And a variety of chips.

Dessert: Ice Cream Sundae Bar

What to bring...

1- Lawn chairs
(bring an extra to share)

2- Canned Drinks
(Please donate - bring in
a cooler if you have one)

Volunteers Still Needed

We need some strong arms to
move and set up tables AND we
need food servers. Please contact
Susie Smith at:

336-596-6889 or
skepley8@yahoo.com



**Music by
Ken Davis**

Carpooling

If you are interested in carpooling from the
church call Jackie at the church office.



MEET AT 1PM AT
ST. STEPHEN UMC
FOR SIGNMAKING
BEGIN WALKING UPTOWN
AT 1PM
RETURN TO
FIRST REFORMED UCC
FOR RECEPTION AND
GUEST SPEAKER

Everyone is welcome, but teens
and families are strongly
encouraged to attend!

First Reformed UCC Youth

**Summer Opportunities for Students
Grades 4-12**

<https://www.jrvc.org/>



AND for Middle and High School Students
<https://catawba.edu/academics/programs-centers/lilly-center/discover-program/>





Volunteers are needed to work in the First Reformed UCC Community Garden on Saturday, May 28 from 10 AM - 12 PM.

For more information contact Edgar Miller at 366-688-2651

Do you have a loved one with mental illness? You are not alone. Family support groups will be available here in Davidson County for families of those living with mental illness. Family support groups are offered free of charge for family members

of someone diagnosed with or suspected of having a mental illness. The support group will be led by Cathy and Joe Browder, trained NAMI facilitators



NAMI
National Alliance on Mental Illness

**North
Carolina**

The Family Support Group meets regularly on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at 7pm via Zoom.

To ask questions email Cathy at: NAMIDavidsonCounty1@gmail.com



OPEN HANDS
MORE GRACE - LESS JUDGMENT

On Monday, May 9th, Open Hands resumed their Meal, Music, and Message outdoor service. First Reformed Clothes Ministry was open during the service and provided clothing for many that attended that evening.

Open Hands Meal, Music & Message
The 1st and 4th Monday of each Month
Location: 100 East 1st Street
Lexington, NC
Call: 336-242-6142



Remember to visit First Reformed UCC's page of Davidson Local online. You can view or subscribe to their daily local email by going to www.davidsonlocal.com or search for their Facebook or Instagram accounts.

First Reformed has a banner at the top of the homepage that advertises our church. We are also able to include up to four stories per month that describe some of our outreach ministries. These stories, along with pictures and/or videos, will be included in their Saturday edition.

Sunday Morning Bible Study

“Living the Spirit Life” is the theme for a new four week Bible study which meets at 9:30 a.m., in the education building, Church Parlor. This is a lively group of folk who gather each Sunday for fellowship and study. We invite new folk to join us as we begin a new series. The following is a reflection upon the new series.

It's Pentecost again, time to celebrate and give thanks. Is Pentecost the birthday of the church? Maybe, or maybe that's when the church learned to walk on its own. Maybe that's when, empowered by fire and wind, the church spoke on its own, but used words learned from the one who give it life. On Pentecost, we celebrate the coming of the Spirit to raise the church out of hiding and out of despair and to give the church wind at the back and fire in the bones and to encourage the church to proclaim: no--to live the good news of Jesus Christ outwardly and invitationally.

Pentecost is also the beginning of the long season we sometimes call *Ordinary Time*. The word *ordinary* comes from *ordinal*. Meaning we count the Sundays---First Sunday after Pentecost, second Sunday after Pentecost, and so on. We don't mean ordinary as in run of the mill and boring, same old, same old. No, in Ordinary Time, we are called; we are invited; we are equipped and empowered to live the Spirit life---a life lived by the one we call Lord, Jesus of Nazareth. We take the reins, and we live for him, even as he lives in us. It's Pentecost again, a time to celebrate and give thanks. And to live the Spirit life.

Sunday, June 5th

“Overcoming Babel” Pentecost Sunday
Acts 2: 1-21; Psalm 104:24-34
Facilitator: Eulene Shepherd

Sunday, June 12

NO BIBLE STUDY
First Reformed Church Picnic

Sunday, June 19th

“From Madness to Stillness”
I Kings 19:1-15a; Luke 9:51-62
Facilitator: Smithie Parrish

Sunday, June 26th

“Brought Home in the Spirit”
2 Kings 2:1-2,6-14; Luke 9:51-62
Facilitator: Cathy Whitley

Women's Life Fellowship...

met on Monday, June 23 in the church parlor. Eight ladies attended the meeting that began with homemade strawberry shortcake, peanuts and a delicious “tea punch,” all prepared by Glenyce Fulton. Paula Lopp, current president, shared a devotional titled, “What You Can't Pray for Yourself.” Belinda Yates gave a treasurer's report, and we were all grateful to learn we have money available since earlier meetings prior to Covid.

Discussions this evening included Women's Life Fellowship and the Morning Glory Circle joining together to form one group. A lunch meeting is planned for June 29th at Yarborough's Restaurant to discuss specifics. We also want to replace/replenish various kitchen items that have been misplaced or broken. A list will be compiled for an order.

The group was asked to help with refreshments for the Youth Work Camp sponsored by Journey Church the last week of July. We agreed to make a monetary donation so snacks needed for the 80-100 youth may be purchased.

Finally, we are hoping to plan a baked potato & salad lunch fundraiser in the near future. Covid guidelines regarding the number of people who can be served as a group will determine how we may proceed with these plans. We will continue this discussion at our next meeting.

Celebrating Graduations and Milestones

Sunday, May 15th

Celebrating Milestones

From Elementary School Emma Hartle and Lucas Peterson

From Middle School Patrick Horton

From High School Sam West
(attending NC School of Math and Sciences)

Celebrating Graduations

Ava Miller Yadkin Valley High School and Davidson-Davie Community College
(Attending North Carolina State University)

Ben Hale Catawba College
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Keri Hartle Cabarrus College of Health Sciences
Bachelor in Medical Imaging



Eva Miller receives the V. G.Price Scholarship

Confirmation 2022

Sunday, May 22nd



Celebrating the Confirmation of Bella Gentry, Bryson Gentry, Jia Miller, and Kia Plummer.



Thank You Notes...

To my FRUCC Family,

Thank you all for the support throughout the years. I really appreciate it. I'm overjoyed in getting the V.G.Price Scholarship. I'll use it well in my future at North Carolina State!

Thank You,
Ava Miller

Dear Member of First Reformed UCC,

Thank you for the love offering doanation to The Dragonfly House Children's Advocay Center. Your gift is already helping children receive much needed help that perhaps oudl not have happened without your kind hearts.

Thank You!!
The Staff at The Dragonfly House
Child Advocacy Cener

First Reformed UCC Church Family,

What a wonderful day!

I Can't think of enough adjectives to thank you for al you did to make my final retire-ment so special. The twenty-eight years in the church office have flown by and I believe that is in part because of you. It seemed more like I was interacting with family than working a job.

I truly appreciate your generous gifts: the flower, plrayer shawl, gift card, bird house, recption, individual cards and gifts and most of all warm embraces and kind remarks.

I don't want to name anyone for fear of leaving someone out but do want to extend a special thank you to all who made Sunday, May 1st another exceptional day in my life..

As I said Sunday, I never dreamed I would end up in a church office but God had another plan for my life and I thank Him every day that he did! I love you all.

Paula Lopp

Dear First Reformed UCC Family,

Words cannot express the extent of my gratitude for the honor received on May 1 upon my retirement from the church office staff. I am thankful for my experience as office administrative assistant and the opportunity to come to know so many in our congregation in such a short time. I appreciate all the well-wishes, cards, gifts, and emails. While I will still be a part of our church, I will miss seeing and speaking with many of you weekly as you visited or called the office. I look forward to other ways I can serve our church.

Sincerely,
Carolyn Robbins

A Grand Celebration for Paula Lopp & Carolyn Robbins

Thank you for your years of service!

Paula Lopp and Carolyn Robbins Retire

On May 1, 2022 First Reformed UCC honored both Paula and Carolyn on their retirement from the church office. Part of the 10:30 worship service celebrated their work in the office with kind words, gifts and music. Following worship, a reception in the Fellowship Hall was held and many funny stories were shared by friends.

Special thanks go to all involved in honoring who many called "The Dynamic Duo." Elizabeth Horton, John & Vicky Gray, Clifton & Harriette Murphy, Buddy & Rita Lohr, Ellen Peterson, Chris Kiser, Lee Ann Peele, Cathy Waitman and Dave & Glenyce Fulton.



Charles England Elementary 5th Grade Graduation Hotdog Lunch

On Wednesday, May 25th First Reformed UCC hosted the Charles England 5th grade graduation hotdog lunch. Thank you to all that came to help serve food and cook and to those that donated food and juice boxes. The children were thrilled.

Jay Whitley





There will be 9 private gardens in historic West 2nd Avenue, Westover & Grimes Park areas. You can drive and walk the tour.

Tour Day Tickets:

Saturday until Noon: Backyard Retreat

Saturday & Sunday: Breeden Insurance

312 W. Center St. & Grimes Park, 25 Hege Drive.



June Birthdays

- 7 Caroline White
- 8 Brian McKerlie
- 11 Franki Hedrick
Sarah Potts
- 13 Beth Callicutt
- 17 Rich Johnson
Carolyn Spivey
- 21 Scott Gray
Alisa Johnson
- 28 June Grubb
Ron Hutcheson

Church Staff:

Pastor: Rev. Elizabeth Horton

elizabeth@frucc.org 336-972-8895

Minister of Congregational Care

Rev. June Grubb 336-248-5668

Director of Children & Youth Ministries

Rev. Evan Sieges evan@frucc.org

Music Director

Ellen Peterson ellen@frucc.org

Pianist / Organist

Christopher Kiser chris@frucc.org

Church Administrator

Jackie Mock jackie@frucc.ort

Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday

- 9:00am** Walkin's Welcome
- 1-1:30pm** Lunch
- 1:30 - 5pm** Please call ahead or make an appointment

Phone: 336-248-2617

104 East Center St., Lexington, NC 27292

Join us for worship Sunday's at 10:30am

June Anniversaries

- 2 Craig & Donna Coe
Irvin & Doris Sink
- 4 Evan & Kyla Sieges
- 9 Lindsay & Linda Sink



Join Us on Facebook:
facebook.com/firstreformeducc

JUNE 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 4-6pm Clothes Ministry Work Day	3	4 Saturday Lunch Ministry 12pm 1pm Pride Youth March and Reception
5 PENTECOST Communion 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship 10:45 Young Disciples & Childrens Church **Parlor Dedication CONSISTORY MEETING 6pm Youth Group	6 6:30pm Open Hands Meal, Music & Message 6pm FRUCC Clothes Ministry 7pm NAMI Family Support Group (Zoom)	7 12pm 2CFAR Zoom & Parlor 7pm Tuesday Night Book Study	8	9 4-6pm Clothes Ministry Work Day Poverty Simulation	10	11 Saturday Lunch Ministry 12pm
12 FRUCC CHURCH PICNIC At Wildcat Farm 10:30am Gather 11:00am Worship Lunch Following	13	14 12pm 2CFAR Zoom & Parlor 7pm Tuesday Night Book Study	15	16 4-6pm Clothes Ministry Work Day	17	18 Saturday Lunch Ministry 12pm
19 2nd Sunday after Pentecost Fathers Day & Juneteenth 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship 10:45 Young Disciples & Childrens Church 6pm Youth Group	20 7pm NAMI Family Support Group (Zoom)	21 12pm 2CFAR Zoom & Parlor 7pm Tuesday Night Book Study	22	23 4-6pm Clothes Ministry Work Day	24	25 Saturday Lunch Ministry 12pm
26 3rd Sunday after Pentecost 9:30am Adult Bible Study 10:30 Worship 10:45 Young Disciples & Childrens Church 6pm Youth Group	27 6:30pm Open Hands Meal, Music & Message 6pm FRUCC Clothes Ministry 7pm Women's Life Fellowship	28 12pm 2CFAR Zoom & Parlor 7pm Tuesday Night Book Study	29 DEADLINE FOR JULY NEWS- LETTER ARTICLES	30 4-6pm Clothes Ministry Work Day		